

## **SPECIFICATIONS AMENDMENT**

## FIELD OF INVENTION

This invention relates to first aid strips

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A first aid strip known in the art comprises a strip of sterile , non adherent gauze pad, to one side of which is attached a strip of adhesive tape. The adhesive tape is used to fix the gauze pad over the wound on the skin of a patient. The drawback of this known art is that if some medicine in the form of , gel, ointment , cream, is applied to the skin and the first aid strip is applied over the skin, the medicine squishes out / oozes out . As a result very little to no medicine is left behind over the skin wound . Further if there is some localized swelling or bulge, associated with the wound or skin condition , such as due to a deep cut, or when there is wart or a raised mole over the skin, the medicine oozes out even more.

## PRIOR ART

U.S. Patent # 4,641,643 of Greer discloses a bandage comprising a flexible body having a central opening , a water repellant layer overlying said body and a removable cover attached to the water repellant layer.

U.S. Patent # 4,909,243 of Frank et al relates to a dressing comprising a base plate having a through hole, a wound pad inserted in said hole, and means for attaching, the pad in the hole.

The bandage disclosed in U.S. Patent 5,086,763 of Hathman , comprises a soft - pad frame having an opening and fixed to an adhesive tape having a registering hole, a pad frame having a registering hole and secured to the soft pad frame, said pad frame being made of a fabric adapted to a micro hook material, a gauze pad fitted in said openings, and a removable flap

having micro hook material detachably secured to the pad frame and gauze pad.

U.S. Patent # 5,702,356 of Hathman relates to a dressing comprising an adhesive strip base member having an aperture, a stepped standoff member interposed between the base member and a sealing cover member, and fitting into a first stepped member of the standoff member and in abutment registry with a second stepped member of the standoff member, means for securing the sealing cover member to the base member, and means of closing the sealing cover member to the base member.

U.S. Patent # 6,066,773 of Freeman discloses a dressing comprising an occlusive layer having an edge portion and a hydro-colloid containing polymeric support layer overlying said edge portion

## SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The dressings of prior art appear to be complicated to manufacture. There is a necessity for a dressing which is easy to manufacture and is cost-effective. The objective of this invention is to overcome the drawbacks of prior art. It is a purpose of this invention to address this objectives.

Accordingly, the present invention provides a first aid strip comprising a strip of sterile, non-adherent gauze pad, a pouch, well, depression or hollow provided on one side of the gauze pad, which comes into contact with the skin when applied over a wound or swelling and a strip of adhesive tape attached to the other side of gauze pad for fixing the first aid strip on the skin.

In one embodiment of this invention at least two additional layers of sterile non-adherent gauze pad strips, are fixed to the gauze pad, on said one side, over the existing gauze pad layer, which comes in contact with the skin, a hole / window being provided in each of the two additional layers, to form said pouch, well, depression, or hollow. Instead of two additional layers, a single layer of appropriate thickness of gauze pad may be used instead, to achieve the same result.

The pouch, well, depression, or hollow has a shape conforming to the shape of the gauze pad and a depth of approx 1.5 - 2.00 mm.

In a second embodiment of the invention, a ring of inert material is interposed between the gauze pad and the additional layers of gauze pad and sealed, creating a pouch.

In a third embodiment, a bulge is provided in said gauze pad and adhesive tape. The said bulge projecting outwardly from said other side of the first aid strip.

In the fourth embodiment a ring made of an inert material is located on top of the gauze pad strip, the outer border of the ring being flush with the margins of the gauze pad strip, on the said other side of the first aid strip. The ring preferably has a approximate depth : 2.00-2.50 mm.

In the fifth embodiment a ring of inert material is attached to the adhesive tape, such that its inner margins surrounds the gauze pad strip, which is fixed to the adhesive tape. The shape of the ring conforms to the shape of the gauze pad strip. The ring has an approx depth of 2.00-2.50 mm

The present invention also provides a method for the manufacture of a first aid strip, comprising

- a ) Providing at least two layers of sterile non-adherent gauze pad;
- b ) Cutting a hole or window in each of said two layers from around the, central area in a shape that conforms to the shape of the gauze pad strip;
- c ) Providing a strip of sterile non-adherent gauze pad with no window or hole cut out , which is attached to a strip of adhesive tape;
- d ) Attaching the said two layers of gauze pad, with a widow created in it, over the said gauze pad strip with no window of hole created in it , on the side of the gauze pad which comes in contact with the skin, to which the adhesive tape of the first aid strip is to be fixed, the said layers of gauze pad overlying each other, and overlying gauze pad strip, on said one side of said gauze pad strip, and ;
- e ) Attaching a strip of adhesive tape to the other side of the gauze pad strip;

In a variant , the method comprises the steps of :

- a ) Providing a strip of sterile , non-adherent gauze pad;
- b ) Placing a ring made of an inert material **around** said gauze pad strip on the side of the gauze pad strip which comes in contact with the skin;
- c ) Attaching a strip of adhesive tape on the other side of the gauze pad strip to fix the ring on the gauze pad strip;

In another variant, which has the following steps:

Alternately the first aid strip may comprise of a strip of sterile non-adherent gauze pad, over which a ring of rubber, latex, or cork is placed, on the side which comes in contact with the skin, with its outer border flush with the margins of the said strip of gauze pad, and a strip of adhesive tape is fixed to the side of gauze pad strip not coming in contact with the skin.

In a further alternative, two layers of gauze pad strip are placed one over the other, and a ring made of an inert material is interposed between the two layers and sealed, thereafter a strip of adhesive tape is attached to one of the layers.

The present invention further provides a gauze hat or gauze cap, comprising a flat sterile gauze pad, with a pouch, well, depression, or hollow, provided on one side thereof. The well pouch, depression, hollow maybe in the form of a window or hole, formed in at least two layers of gauze pad attached to one of the sides of said gauze pad. This window or hole can be first made in the two layers of additional gauze. Then the layers maybe placed on the flat gauze pad so that the window or holes are in alignment and form a pouch , well or depression or hollow

on one side of the gauze pad. Thereafter the flat gauze pad and the two additional layers are attached to one another.

In another embodiment, a ring made of inert material is interposed and sealed between the flat gauze pad and the additional layer of gauze pad.

In an alternative, the gauze hat or gauze cap comprises a flat gauze pad, and a ring of inert material such as cork, latex, rubber, attached to one side of the flat gauze pad, to form said pouch, well, depression, or hollow. In this case the outer periphery of the ring will be flush, with the margins of the gauze pad.

In yet another embodiment, a pouch is formed as a bulge in the flat gauze pad.

## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

- FIG 1.** Shows a first aid strip;
- FIG 2.** Shows cross-sectional view of the first aid strip along section line , 2-2 in Fig 1;
- FIG 3.** Shows an tangential view, of one embodiment of the first aid strip according to present invention;
- FIG 4.** Shows a cross-sectional view of the first aid strip along section line, 4- 4 in Fig 3;
- FIG 5.** Shows an exploded view of the components of the first aid strip shown in Fig 3;
- FIG 6.** Shows a plain view of a second embodiment of the present invention;
- FIG 7.** Shows a cross-sectional view along section line 7-7 in Fig 6;
- FIG 8.** Shows an exploded view of the components of the first aid strip shown in Fig 6;
- FIG 9.** Shows a tangential view of a third embodiment of the first aid strip according to the present invention;
- FIG 10.** Shows a cross sectional view along section line 10-10 in fig 9;
- FIG 11.** Shows tangential view of a fourth embodiment of the first aid strip;
- FIG 12.** Shows a cross-sectional view of the components of the first aid strip along section line 12-12 of Fig 11;
- FIG 13.** Shows a exploded view of the components of the first aid strip shown in Fig 11
- FIG 14.** Shows a tangential assembled view of a fifth embodiment of the first aid strip;
- FIG 15.** Shows an cross-sectional view of the components of the first aid strip along section line 15-15 in Fig 14;
- FIG 16.** Shows an exploded view of the components of the first aid strip shown in Fig 14;



## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the first embodiment shown, in Fig's 1-5, the first aid strip comprises an adhesive tape 20 , a gauze pad strip 21 attached to the adhesive tape, and two gauze pad layers 22, 23. The layers 22, 23, are each provided with a window or hole, to form a pouch, when placed over the gauze pad strip 21, and surrounded by the walls of the gauze pad layers 22, 23 . They are stacked one above the other over the gauze pad strip 21, so that the windows in the different layers are aligned with one another.

The windows are cut out, from around the central area of the gauze pad layer 22 23 . The pouch thus created has an approx depth of 1.5 - 2.00 mm. All the measurements are approximate and may be modified as needed.

In the second embodiment shown in , Figs 6-8, the first aid strip comprises an adhesive tape 20, a gauze pad strip 21 attached to it . A layer of gauze pad 24 placed over gauze pad strip 21, and a ring 25 of an inert material, such as cork, rubber, or latex interposed and fixed between the gauze pad layer 21 and 24.

The ring 25 is sealed between, the gauze pad layer 21 and 24 , so that it does not come in contact with the skin. The ring should preferably have a depth of 1.5 - 2.00 mm. The dimensions of the ring 25 are less than the dimensions of the gauze pad .

In the third embodiment shown in Figs 9-10, the first aid strip has an adhesive tape 20, and a gauze pad strip 21 attached to it. The tape 20 and gauze pad 21 are both extruded outwards to create a bulge .

Fig's 11-13, show a fourth embodiment of the present invention. In this case the first aid strip comprises an adhesive tape 20, a gauze pad strip 21 attached to adhesive tape 20, and a ring 26 of inert material, like rubber, cork or latex attached to the gauze pad 21 . The ring is placed over gauze pad 21 in such a way, that the outer edges of the ring 26 are flush with the edges of the gauze pad 21 . The ring placed in such a way over gauze pad 21 comes in contact with the skin when used for any condition or situation on the human body.

Fig's 14-16 , show a fifth embodiment of the present invention. The first aid strip in this situation has an adhesive tape 20, a gauze pad strip 20 attached to it, and a ring 27 of inert material such as cork, rubber or latex also attached to adhesive tape 20. In this embodiment the ring is placed in such a way, that the inner borders of the ring surround the gauze pad 21 . In such a situation, when the first aid strip is placed on the body for any condition or situation, the ring 27 comes into contact with the skin. The ring surface which comes in contact with the skin is also provided with some adhesive capability, so that it sticks to the skin when placed on it . The ring 27 may have a depth of about 2.00 - 2.50 mm. During use , medicine can be put in the hollow created inside the ring, and the first aid strip can then be applied to the skin.

This invention extends to gauze hats / gauze caps also. It has a pouch, well, hollow or pregnant dimple or depression. It can be used with different wounds or skin conditions with an appropriate sized adhesive tape. The only difference to first aid hats / caps described above being , it does not come with its own adhesive tape. These gauze hats or gauze caps can be manufactured in the same manner as herein before described with reference to first aid strip.

Although the invention has been described with reference to preferred embodiment the invention extends to all obvious modifications of the invention as claimed herein after.